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September 22, 1998

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SUBJECT:

Final Technical Report

ONR Award No. N00014-96-1-0041

PI: Dr. Thomas C. Lippmann

Enclosed for your records is the final technical report for the above referenced grant.

Sincerely,

Ann F. Dunbar

Contract & Grant Assistant

SIO, UCSD

Appropriation points release:
Displaying Colonical

Cc: Ms. Nancy Wilson

Dr. Thomas C. Lippmann

			Form Approved
REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE			OMB No. 0704-0188
Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden to Washington Headquarters Services. Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302. and to the Office of Management and Budget. Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188). Washington, DC 20503.			
	2. REPORT DATE	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES	
	9/16/98	Final Technical Report / 10/1/95 - 9/30/97	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE			5. FUNDING NUMBERS
Wave Surface and Bottom Boundary Layers in the Nearshore			ONR N00014-96-1-0041
6. AUTHOR(S)			
Dr. Thomas C. Lippmann			
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAMES(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER
Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Center for Coastal Studies 9500 Gilman Drive			
La Jolla, CA 92093-0209			
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)			10. SPONSORING/MONITORING
Office of Naval Research			AGENCY REPORT NUMBER
Attn: Dr. Thomas Kinder			
800 North Quincy Street			
Arlington, VA 22217-5500			
12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT			12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE
Unrestricted			
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words) This grant consisted of two cor investigations of the dynamics nearshore waters. Standard (dand tested in the field experime wave breaking occurrences on coincident with in situ pressure	of the wave surface and bot laytime) and intensified (niglents, and were used to meas both land atop towers and a bi-directional velocity, turb	tom boundary layers int-time) video systems sure the temporal and t sea aboard ships. Vulence, and void fract	in shallow s were developed spatial variability in 'ideo data obtained ion were used to
calibrate new models for the transformation of wave energy across the surf zone, the forcing of nearshore circulation patterns, and characteristics of breaking waves including turbulence and bubble injection into the water column. Methods for measuring wave breaking on the continental			
shelf from shipboard video observations were developed in a series of cruises, and used to quantify			
whitecapping events in relation	to sea and swell in the vicin	nity of a directional wa	verider buoy.
14. SUBJECT TERMS			15. NUMBER OF PAGES
ocean surface waves, shallow water wave transformation, wave breaking,			3
whitecapping, video image processing, nearshore processes.			16. PRICE CODE
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT
Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	None

Results from ONR Grant N00014-96-1-0041

Amount: \$ 44,499

Duration: 10/1/95 - 9/30/97

19980929 055

Summary

This grant consisted of two components, development of new instruments followed by three field investigations of the dynamics of the wave surface and bottom boundary layers in shallow nearshore waters. The research grant was initiated at the Naval Postgraduate School with coprincipal investigators Dr.'s E. B. Thornton, T. P. Stanton, and T. C. Lippmann. The summary which follows focuses on results contributed by Dr. Lippmann after his subsequent move to Scripps Institution of Oceanography in the second year of the initial three year grant duration.

A primary result of the instrumentation phase was the development of video image processing methods for quantifying the spatial and temporal variation of depth-limited wave breaking in the surf zone and steepness-limited whitecapping in intermediate and d eep water. Both daylight and intensified nighttime video camera systems were developed which can be used to measure the location and time of individual wave breaking events that occur over several hundred meters both across-shore and along the coastline. These remotely controlled systems (via fiber-optic linkages) could be deployed under adverse weather conditions and continuously for several months. The time-synchronization of the video frames from multiple cameras can also be used for stereo-graphic analysis of wave breaking data. The statistics of wave breaking distributions obtained from a series of video cameras are used to calibrate new models for the transformation of wave heights across the surf zone, and quantified spatial forcing patterns for nearshore circulation that was not previously well understood. Methods for measuring whitecapping distributions were developed over several iterations and multiple field deployments, and resulted in a field tested method for quantifying the occurrence of whitecapping events in relation to syncrhonized observations of the sea-swell waves in the vicinity of a wave bouy.

The video systems and several other instruments developed as part of this grant by the co-PI's at the Naval Postgraduate School, were deployed for several weeks on a low-sloping beach in Monterey Bay in the winter and spring of 1995. The data showed that the spatial patterns of wave breaking significantly modified the previously modeled forcing distribution, and subsequently led to improved comparisons between modeled and observed set-up distributions across the surf zone, vertically varying undertow pro files, and bubble injections into the water column. New energy balance models for the spatial variation of wave breaking were verified with arrays of pressure data that measured wave height and nonlinear properties of the wave field (including wave asymm etries and skewness). These systems were deployed again for several months in the Fall of 1997 at Duck, NC, as part of the SandyDuck experiment. These data are being used to quantify the long temporal and large spatial variation of wave breaking patterns, and to compare the wave-driven forcing to collaborative observations of nearshore circulation, low-frequency infragravity motions, and suspended sediment concentration. As part of ongoing research, these results will be placed in context with the variat ion of bottom roughness and larger scale bathymetric features measured by our co-PI's.

Publications

Referred Articles:

Lippmann, T. C., C. F., Jorgensen, and E. B. Thornton, Wave slopes and breaking distributions in the surf zone, J. Geophys. Res., submitted.

Lippmann, T. C., and E. B. Thornton, The spatial distribution of wave breaking on a barred beach, J. Geophys. Res., submitted.

Theses:

Jorgensen, C. F., Wave slopes and breaking distributions in the surf zone, M.S. Thesis, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, pp. 64, 1996.

Tannahill, J. B., Bubble injection under breaking waves, M. S. Thesis, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, pp. 56, 1996.

Morris, B. J., Set-up under a natural wave, M. S. Thesis, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, pp. 51, 1997.

Abstracts for Presentations at National and International Meetings:

Jorgensen, C. F., E. B. Thornton, and T. C. Lippmann, Wave asymmetry and breaking distributions on barred profiles, Abstract 0S21B-7, Trans. Amer. Geophys. Union, 76(46), F293, 1995.

Tannahill, J. F., E. B. Thornton, T. P. Stanton, and T. C. Lippmann, Bubble injection events measured under breaking waves, Abstract OS21A-11, Trans. Amer. Geophys. Union, 76(46), F293, 1995.

Morris, B. J., E. B. Thornton, and T. P. Stanton, Wave set-up measured in the field, Abstract OS21A-01, 76(46), F293, 1995.

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